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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)
SUBJECT Kirchmöser Tank Repair Shops

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REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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1. The 105 (not 150) mm guns delivered from the Soviet Union for installation in tanks lie at Kirchmöser. They are installed for the most part in type Stalin I tanks, but they have also been installed in three of the improved T-34 tanks. The tanks belong to an armored division at Jena. These T-34 tanks, along with the guns, received new turrets, delivered by Krupp Gruson of Magdeburg. The 105 mm guns are provided with muzzle brakes and about 4.5 meters long. In addition, the turret has an outward-tapering bulge which most probably is to house the brakes.
2. The tanks given to the Volkspolizei are only equipped with 76 mm guns without muzzle brakes.
3. The Stalin III tank has a 122 mm gun with a very long barrel and muzzle brakes. Only two of this type have been repaired at Kirchmöser.
4. Two tanks were shipped to Magdeburg by rail on 23 Nov 53 and are stationed there in a pasture. The total number of tanks and caterpillar vehicles repaired was 114 from November 1953 up to and including 3 Dec 53. Sixteen T-34 tanks went to a Volkspolizei unit at Prora, Rügen. They came from a Soviet unit in Brandenburg. The destination of the other repaired tanks is not known.
5. A self-propelled gun, type SU 152, has been equipped with new tracks and transmission. The cannon was removed and taken away by a Soviet truck. The self-propelled gun is now in the Kirchmöser works, waiting for installation of the cannon.

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